



# County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH HOSTS "MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH" CONFERENCES & EVENTS

**LOS ANGELES (Thu., May 3, 2007)** – The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) has once again teamed up with Mental Health America (MHA), formerly the National Mental Health Association, and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in observance of "May is Mental Health Month." Throughout the month of May, the Department of Mental Health will host educational conferences and events that will raise awareness about mental health and the importance of taking care of one's own mental health wellness.

The following is a list of scheduled "May is Mental Health Month" conferences and events that will take place throughout Los Angeles County:

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| <b>May 8 (12 noon-2 p.m.):</b>         | <b>National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day</b><br><br>United American Indian Involvement Community Center<br>1125 West Sixth Street, Suite 103, Los Angeles 90017  |
| <b>May 10 (11 a.m.-2 p.m.):</b>        | <b>8<sup>th</sup> Annual Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission and Department of Mental Health Eighth Annual Recognition and Volunteer Awards Program</b><br><br>Los Angeles County Music Center<br>135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012  |
| <b>May 12 (11 a.m.-2 p.m.):</b>        | <b>Health and Wellness Fair – KCBS Marketing</b><br><br>Belvedere Park<br>4914 East Cesar Chavez Avenue, Los Angeles 90022   |
| <b>May 12 &amp; 19 (7:30-10 p.m.):</b> | <b>Los Angeles Avengers Arena Football Team Celebrates "May is Mental Health Month"</b><br><br>Staples Center's Customer Link Service Area<br>1111 Figueroa Street, Los Angeles 90015<br><br>May 12: vs. Tampa Bay Storm & May 19: vs. Georgia Force |

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**May 16-17 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.): Ninth Annual Los Angeles County Multicultural Conference  
“Continuing the Journey: Adapting to Change in a Culturally Diverse Society”**

Pasadena Convention Center  
300 East Green Street, Los Angeles, 91101

**May 18 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.): Fifth Annual Margarita Mendez Lecture in Social Work  
“Promoting Dynamic Community Partnerships” with guest speaker Judy Chu, Ph.D., Vice Chair, State Board of Equalization and former State Assemblywoman representing the 49<sup>th</sup> District of West San Gabriel Valley**

California State University, Los Angeles  
Golden Eagle Conference Center  
5151 State University Drive  
Los Angeles 90032

(Regular Admission: \$30.00, Student Admission: \$15.00, CEU's credits available – Seating is limited)

**May 21 (8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.): Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health “Annual Mental Health Conference for Faith Leaders”**

Faith-based Leadership in Fighting Stigma – Topics to be discussed: “How Clergy Can Help to Erase Stigma,” “The Hope and Recovery from Mental Illness,” and “Family, Faith and Recovery.”

The California Endowment's Center for Healthy Communities  
1000 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles 90012  
(Parking is free)

**May 23: (9 a.m.-5 p.m.): 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Latino Conference “Early Prevention, Early Intervention, Healthy Families” presented by Pacific Clinics - Co-sponsored by Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the Latino Behavioral Health Institute**

Hilton Hotel San Gabriel  
225 West Valley Boulevard, San Gabriel 91776

**Special Guest Speaker:** Edward James Olmos – **Honored Guest Presenters:** Father Gregory J. Boyle, S.J., Founder/Executive Director of Homeboy Industries, Alex Kopelowicz, M.D., Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Center for Reducing Health Disparities, Professor of Internal Medicine at University of California, Davis and Ana Nogales, Ph.D., President of Association for Latino Mental Health Awareness and President/CEO of Casa de La Familia.

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**May 23 (9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.):** “Reducing Mental Health Stigma among Asian Pacific Population and Embracing Recovery”

Long Beach Asian Pacific Mental Health Program  
Long Beach Mental Health Center, Room 270  
1975 Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach 90806

The event festivities will include Consumers’ Wellness activities, Khmer traditional costume demonstration, Consumer’s Story “Road to Recovery,” presentation of recognition certificates to Consumers who have demonstrated efforts and milestones in their recovery, presentation on reducing stigma of mental illness and wellness services. In addition, there will be various displays of Asian Pacific culture.

**May 26 (10 a.m.-3 p.m.):** **Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families: Past, Present and Future” event.** The day-long festivities will begin with a special tribute to the United States Armed Forces at 11:30 a.m., co-hosted by NBC4 Weatherman Fritz Coleman.

The event will feature skydivers, a flyover, a “Wall of Remembrance” where family members and friends can place copies of photos of their loved ones on the wall, display of military & equipment, children’s area (face painting, arts & crafts, games, entertainment, free popcorn), live entertainment, food booths and County departments, governmental, independent and private agencies information booths (mental health, health, employment, child support and legal services).

Los Angeles County Arcadia Park  
405 South Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia 91006

**May 30 (11 a.m.-2 p.m.):** **Long Beach Mental Health Center**

The center’s event will feature an unveiling of an artistic mural designed by Trace Tres Fukuhara, Artistic Director of the Pacific Wind Arts; and an awards ceremony honoring the clients and consumers working their way successfully from the clinic programs to Wellness Centers.

Long Beach Mental Health Center  
1975 Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach 90806

For additional resources, the National Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration/Ad Council has launched “What a Difference a Friend Makes” awareness campaign that provides information about how to encourage, educate, and inspire transitional age youth (16-25) to support their friends who are experiencing mental health problems. For more information, go to [www.whatadifference.org](http://www.whatadifference.org).

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